BLM News

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Bureau of Land Management
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

STEENS MOUNTAIN ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING TO BE HELD IN BURNS

The next Steens Mountain Advisory Council Meeting (SMAC) is scheduled for Monday and Tuesday, November 15-16, 2004, at the Burns District Bureau of Land Management Office, 28910 Hwy 20 West in Hines, Oregon.

On Monday, the meeting will open with updates from the Chairman and Designated Federal Official. Information about the Page Springs Weir, workload priorities for the Andrews Resource Area of the Burns District, and protests to the Andrews/Steens Resource Management Plan will be shared to round out the morning session. For the afternoon, discussion items include developing criteria for easements and acquisitions, topics for SMAC meetings in 2005, the 2005 SMAC meeting schedule, and the Applegate Fuels Template.

On Tuesday, the SMAC will conduct Chair and Vice-Chair elections, discuss the council charter and receive reports about recreation use on Steens Mountain and the transportation plan for the Cooperative Management and Protection Area. Discussion of the next meeting's agenda and any other matters that may reasonably come before the SMAC may also be addressed.

The public is welcome to attend all portions of the two-day meeting, and may contribute during the public comment periods at 11:00 a.m. each day. Those who verbally address the SMAC during the open session are asked to also provide a <u>written</u> statement of their comments or presentation. Unless otherwise approved by the SMAC Chair, the public comment period will last no longer than 30 minutes, and each speaker may address the SMAC for a maximum of 5 minutes.

If you have information you would like distributed to SMAC members, please send it to Rhonda Karges at the Burns District Office, 28910 Highway 20 West, Hines, Oregon 97738, prior to the start of the meeting. If you send information or general correspondence to anyone at the Burns

District Office and would like a copy given to the SMAC, please write "COPY TO SMAC" on the envelope and enclosed document(s).

For further information on the SMAC or the upcoming meeting, contact Rhonda Karges at the Burns District Office at (541) 573-4400, weekdays, between 7:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.